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AFGHANISTAN

FACT SHEET

Kapisa Province

OVERVIEW

USAID estimated support for Kapisa from January 2002 - December 2010: \$32.6 million

Estimated population: 393,000 (Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan Central Statistics Office: Estimated Population of Afghanistan 2008-2009)

Capital: Mahmud Raqi

Note: US-led PRT based out of Bagram



The province of Kapisa sits at the base of the Hindu Kush and is traversed by the Panjshir and Gorbond Rivers. Kapisa's mixed Tajik and Pashtun population benefits from the province's talc mine and fertile agricultural land. The region's farmers grow cereal crops, onions, and potatoes, and also cultivate orchards with a diversity of fruit and nuts. Although there are few good roads in Kapisa, the newly paved road connecting Parwan Province to other eastern provinces has played an important part in boosting Kapisa's economy. While the province continues to lack many basic services, there are several good educational opportunities for its residents, including the newly built Al Biruni University.

AGRICULTURE

Goal: Increase agricultural sector jobs and income through a) increased agricultural productivity by increasing farmer access to inputs such as fertilizer and through the expansion of effective extension services; b) invigorated agribusiness by increasing linkages between farmers, markets, credit, and trade corridors; and c) rehabilitated watersheds and improved irrigation infrastructure. Also, increase Afghans' confidence in their government by increased Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock's (MAIL) capacity to deliver services and promote the private sector and farmer associations through direct budget and technical assistance.

Summary: USAID focuses on helping farmers develop a dynamic agricultural economy capable of adapting to market forces through support of market linkages and improved farm technology.

Current Activities:

- Establish a farm service center

Accomplishments:

- Exported 1,000 kg of pomegranates to India to promote the fruit to consumers, wholesale buyers, and the India International Trade Fair
- Established nine private full-service AgDepot farm stores that provide agriculture supplies and services to support key legal crops and animal health
- Installed an AgNet Internet communications system and weather station in the provincial MAIL office, providing access to the National Agriculture Information System database and trained AgNet technicians, who collect and transmit local weather, market price, and agricultural production data to ministry headquarters and local farmers
- Established and continues to support 14 veterinary field units including in-service training to 17 para-veterinarians, providing over one million life-saving vaccines and other medications and treatments to animals
- Distributed seed and fertilizer vouchers to approximately 11,000 farmers



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- Trained nine Afghan government officials from MAIL, the National Environmental Protection Agency, and other related organizations on community-based natural resource management practices
- Established 22 woodlots, four nurseries, and 50 fruit orchards; planted 248,800 trees and cuttings; planted 1,700 fruit rootstocks; trained 334 individuals on orchard, fruit nursery, and forestry management; and created 87 full-time equivalent jobs
- Contributed to the development of the rangeland law
- Trained Kuchi leaders in peace and negotiation methods and conflict resolution

DEMOCRACY & GOVERNANCE

Goal: Build the capacity of government institutions to improve the quality and quantity of government services to Afghan citizens. Support independent media institutions and advocacy groups.

Summary: USAID builds the capacity of government institutions and civil society to improve the accountability of government, as well as the quality and quantity of government services to citizens in Kapisa Province through activities that support the justice sector, media, civil society, and governance development.

Current Activities:

- Support five USAID-established community cultural centers that carry out legal and women's rights awareness activities at the district level
- Support the Afghanistan Women's Education Center as an intermediate civil-society support organization, which will organize community dialogues, run resource centers, monitor grantees, and provide capacity building to targeted civil-society organizations
- Train provincial and district-level civil servants in the five common functions highlighted in the Afghanistan National Development Strategy: financial management, human resources management, procurement, project management, and strategy and policy development
- Embed technical advisors in provincial line departments, who provide on-the-job training to civil servants to increase service delivery
- Provide capacity building, training, and small grants to eight Afghan civil-society organizations showing the potential to be sustainable, effective organizations in the province
- Train provincial council members on the council's legal rights, monitoring, and oversight, and getting them to communicate with the constituents and represent them better in front of government entities
- Provide \$25,000/month through the Performance Based Governors Fund for governors to cover operational expenditures and perform community outreach projects

Accomplishments:

- Supported the development of the justice sector through the publication and distribution of judicial reference laws
- Developed and trained judges and court administrators in the Afghanistan Court Administration System
- Provided core, skills, and ethics training for judges
- Supported the 2010 voter registration update exercise; assisted domestic and international observation missions, trained political parties and candidate poll agents, conducted a series of poll surveys ahead of the 2010 election, and provided civic education and media outreach activities for broad-based participation to promote a democratically-elected government
- Supported the Saba Media Organization for an education/literacy project
- Supported the Enjeel Association of United Sisters for a citizen's platform for gender equality project



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- Promoted legal and human rights awareness, including women's rights, through public education campaigns in a variety of media, and provided institutional, capacity-building training to civil-society organizations
- Provided training and support to provincial councils, which improved professionalism, knowledge, and skills, resulting in more effective and transparent leadership
- Facilitated consensus-building efforts through civic-education training and dialogue sessions with mullahs and Sharia scholars
- Supported voter registration, assisted domestic and international observation missions, trained political parties and independent poll agents, conducted a series of poll surveys, and supported the 2009 presidential and provincial council elections
- Built one provincial judicial building and one district administration building
- Funded community learning systems for women and out-of-school girls and held an International Women's Day celebration to inform women about issues such as health, education, and women's rights, and encourage them to take an active role in their communities
- Sponsored legal awareness radio programs throughout the province and four legal rights awareness workshops in three districts of Kapisa, increasing citizens' knowledge about their rights

ECONOMIC GROWTH

Goal: Promote a thriving, legal economy led by the private sector.

Summary: USAID promotes a legal economy in Kapisa Province by expanding access to telecommunications and modern banking services.

Current Activities:

- Promote economic related information and data collection activities in Kapisa Province to build Da Afghanistan Bank (DAB) regional economic research and analytical function introduced in DAB zone offices
- Support the revenue reconciliation team of the Kapisa Mustofiat, centered on accurate revenue collection posting and reporting to center
- Support the Ministry of Finance's provincial budgeting team and provincial budgeting officers based in the Jalalabad training hub, to conduct budgeting training programs and provide technical assistance to Kapisa provincial officials in preparing annual budget estimates
- Promote improved cash management operations with regard to availability and quality of bank notes in circulation

Accomplishments:

- Installed six District Communications Network centers, operated by Afghan Telecom, that provide telephones, Internet, and photocopying services to both the district government officials and the public
- Implemented an automated Core Banking System, provided training for bank staff, and expanded and refurbished the provincial branch of DAB that operates as the paying agent for the government and disburses all social, payroll, and procurement payments (services such as these increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the social and economic infrastructure of Afghanistan, contributing to the development of the public and private sectors)
- Installed the Revenue Reconciliation and Accounting database in the Kapisa Mustofiat, which has dramatically reduced processing times of Afghan government revenue receipts, production on revenue reports, and uploading into the consolidated Ministry of Finance Financial Management System



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- Offered business development training to six business associations involved in the processing of honey and pomegranates
- Held a provincial budgeting capacity-building workshop and trained 43 Kapisa officials in effective planning and budget estimate preparation to increase their participation in the national budget process by developing inputs that better reflect local needs and priorities
- Supported 83 small and medium enterprises through sector-specific trainings, association grants, and business skills trainings
- Trained seven associations on association management
- Promoted economic expansion and rural enterprise development through micro-credit lending
- Disbursed more than \$510,400 in microfinance loans through USAID-funded financial institutions

EDUCATION

Goal: Improve the quality of basic education through improved teacher quality and increased availability of primary school textbooks; and improve the livelihoods of urban and rural communities through increased literacy and employability instruction.

Summary: USAID supports educational improvements in Kapisa Province through three national education programs. USAID has provided radio-based teacher support programs, provided support to local communities through capacity strengthening in partnerships with non-governmental organizations and Ministry of Education personnel, provided literacy and vocational schools, printed textbooks, and constructed and/or refurbished schools.

Current Activities:

- Provide radio-based teacher support programs to improve teachers' skills and performance in the classroom
- Train community leaders and village teachers in community mobilization, program management, and functional literacy skills
- Continue supporting 605 literacy centers in 190 communities
- Support 106 community-based schools in five districts, to expand access and quality of education in five districts where there are no formal schools
- Continue textbook support

Accomplishments:

- Established 605 literacy centers (34 for women) for 14,000 youth and adults (59 percent female) in 190 communities
- Printed more than 1.46 million primary and secondary education textbooks
- Constructed 14 schools

HEALTH

Goal: Improve the access to and quality of health services and increase the abilities of individuals, families, and communities to protect their health.

Summary: USAID's principal health investments in Kapisa Province come through nationwide programs, including support for health and family planning products and provision of refresher training courses for nurses and physicians.



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Current Activities:

- Support social marketing of health and family planning products (such as contraceptives, water purification agents, and oral rehydration salts for diarrhea) through 31 private-sector outlets
- Fund the Diseases Early Warning System for 14 routine conditions/diseases in seven sentinel sites
- Support the Provincial Public Health Office and the Provincial Public Health Coordination Committee to strengthen the technical, leadership, and management capacity of the provincial health team to support the delivery of Basic Package of Health Services (BPHS) and Essential Package of Hospital Services (EPHS)
- Train community health worker trainers and community health supervisors, and orient new non-governmental organization staff, to expand the use of post-partum family planning

Accomplishments:

- Trained 7,900 pharmacists, shura members, and community health workers on safe drinking water, oral rehydration salts, and birth spacing to increase the quality of preventative healthcare in the province
- Trained provincial health officers to develop monthly joint monitoring plans to support the delivery of BPHS and EPHS

INFRASTRUCTURE

Goal: Improve infrastructure to create legal economic opportunities, promote freedom of movement, and facilitate delivery of government and social services.

Summary: The infrastructure program for Kapisa Province focuses on the construction of roads, renewable energy systems, and water wells while building the capacity of local workers and supporting the local economy through the use of locally available materials.

Current Activities:

- Construct 77 bore wells to provide potable water supply to residents of Nejrab District
- Install 25 solar home systems to provide electricity to 200 residents of Tagab District

Accomplishments:

- Constructed micro-hydro power plants by rehabilitating 20 water mills to increase access to potable water supplies and provide energy across Kapisa Province
- Built three bridges and rehabilitated the Kohband District Center Road, shortening travel time, improving economic opportunities, and providing access to health services and educational institutions
- Constructed or refurbished wells in Alasay and Nijrab districts to increase access to water supply, improving the health of people, livestock, and crops

STABILIZATION

Goal: Improve stability, extend the reach of the Afghan government, and promote stabilization efforts that lay the groundwork for medium- to long-term development activities.

Summary: USAID creates linkages and builds confidence between communities and the local government through small-scale infrastructure, training, and community development projects.



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Current Activities:

- Support community-level labor intensive programs that improve city infrastructure, support community development priorities, and offer temporary employment (wages earned through these public and community works projects enable the poor to purchase food for themselves and their families)
- Distribute kits to assist families who experienced losses as a result of international military operations against insurgents
- Fund canal cleaning in four villages to improve access to irrigation water

Accomplishments:

- Improved transportation in Kapisa Province through the construction of four village roads
- Supported drinking water projects and rehabilitated canals
- Provided improved access to drinking water through the Bio Sand Filter and Hygiene project for Tagab and Nijrab districts
- Provided vocational training in welding, masonry, mobile phone repair, literacy, and carpentry for 150 beneficiaries
- Helped 30,000 people through community-level labor intensive programs that improve city infrastructure, support community development priorities, and offer temporary employment
- Rehabilitated and constructed new classrooms for Ghazi Usman High School in Tagab District as a result of damage from international military operations against insurgents
- Provided six-month literacy and tailoring training programs for ten beneficiaries in multiple locations around the province